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SENATE BILL 2851

By Blackburn

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56 and Title 71, to enact "The Millennial TennCare Health Coverage Reform & Renewal Act".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "The Millennial TennCare Health Coverage Reform & Renewal Act".

SECTION 2. The general assembly finds that a significantly small number of persons enrolled in TennCare incur disproportionately higher medical expenses due to their conditions, including, but not limited to, severe burns, extremely premature infants, organ transplants and catastrophic accidents, in addition to the expense and quantity of the treatments required for a successful medical outcome. The general assembly also finds that it is in the state's and its citizens best interests that financing and management of this population be separated from the TennCare program.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, is amended by adding the following new section thereto:

Section 71-5-____. (a) The director of TennCare, after consultation with the commissioner of health and the commissioner of finance and administration, shall select

a qualified vendor to provide the entire care for all TennCare acute needs enrollees, as defined by rules and regulations, for the consecutive three hundred sixty-five (365) day period following the enrollee's acute need qualifying event, as defined by agreement with the qualified vendor.

(b) The commissioner of health and the commissioner of finance and administration are authorized to reduce the monthly amounts paid to a TennCare managed care organization by an actuarially sound amount determined to fund the payment of the care for acute needs enrollees.

(c) The commissioner of health and the commissioner of finance and administration are authorized to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.